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29. — *Last Poems of ELIZABETH BARRETT BROWNING.* With a Memorial, by THEODORE TILTON. New York: James Miller. 1862. 16mo. pp. 242.

MOST of these poems were left in manuscript by the author. Some of them are among the best of her minor poems. Several have that union of masculine vigor with the profoundest womanly tenderness, which we could trace more and more in the last years of her life, and which marked the culmination of her powers. We have so recently discoursed at length on the peculiar traits of her genius, that little now remains which we should wish to add. Mr. Tilton's "Memorial" is a warmly appreciative and at the same time a discriminating essay on her character and poems, and especially on her character as illustrated by her poems.

30. — *A Dictionary of English Etymology.* By HENSLEIGH WEDGWOOD, M. A., Late Fellow of Christ College, Cambridge. Volume I. (A-D.) With Notes and Additions, by GEORGE P. MARSH. New York: Sheldon & Co. 1862. 8vo. pp. 247.

THIS is a dictionary, not to be consulted, but to be read through both for delight and for instruction. It is one of the most fascinating books of the time. We can best define it by terming it a biographical dictionary of words. *Biographical* we say; for words have life, and sometimes they die before the language to which they belong; and while they live, they move, they drop and take on significations, they are called to new services with the growth or modification of science, art, and social refinement. Conversely, the biography of words embodies large and momentous sections of human history. How much, for instance, is told by the contrast between the Latin *privilegium* and the English *privilege*, the former capable of a bad sense [a *priva lex* against an individual], as when Cicero complains of the demolition of his house as a *privilegium*, — the latter indicating that Christian civilization, whatever it may do, will *recognize* exceptions only in favor of individuals! How much of spiritual history is comprehended in the fact that Tertullian, the Christian, was the first writer known to have used *tribulatio* to denote affliction, thus marking the advent into Christian consciousness of the *threshing* ministry for God's wheat of what were previously regarded only as burdens and sorrows! Of such items of history the volume now before us is full. The English author must have made these inquiries the study of a lifetime, and the additions by our learned countryman are such as we should have anticipated from his previous labors in this department. Were